

# Family Advocacy Center

**Ginger Bealer, Director**  
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## Program Goal

The Family Advocacy Center provides comprehensive services to domestic violence and sexual assault/abuse victims and their families, in a safe, comforting and supportive environment.

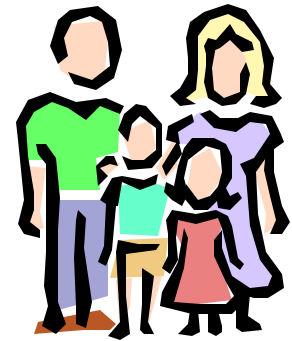
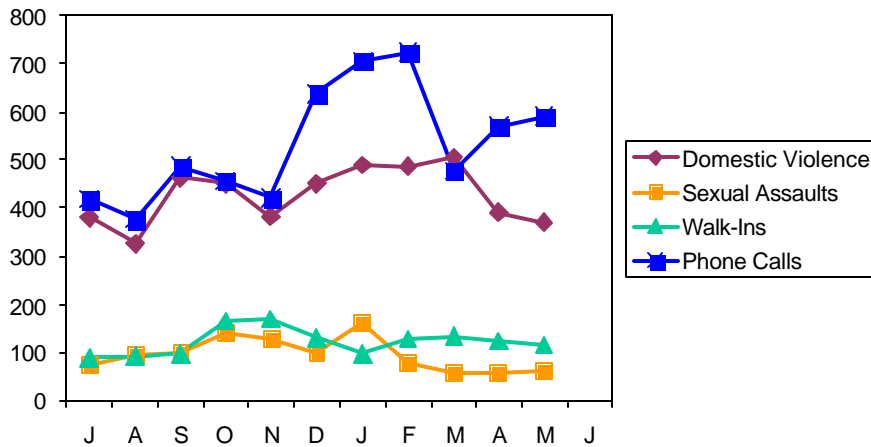
## Key Services

- Crisis intervention and counseling
- Shelter access and emergency housing
- After hours advocate response and victim assistance
- Investigative and Prosecutorial support
- Orders of Protection
- Forensic examinations and related medical treatment
- Emergency food boxes

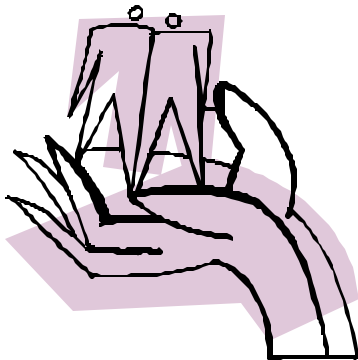
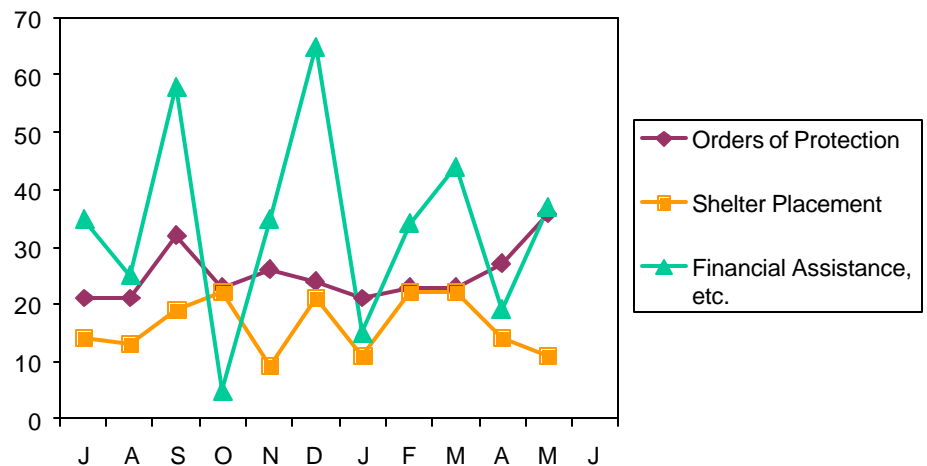
- Rent and utility assistance (Phoenix residents)
- Survivor support groups
- Advocate support during court proceedings and hearings
- Legal advocacy referrals
- Information and referral services

Phone: (602) 534-2120

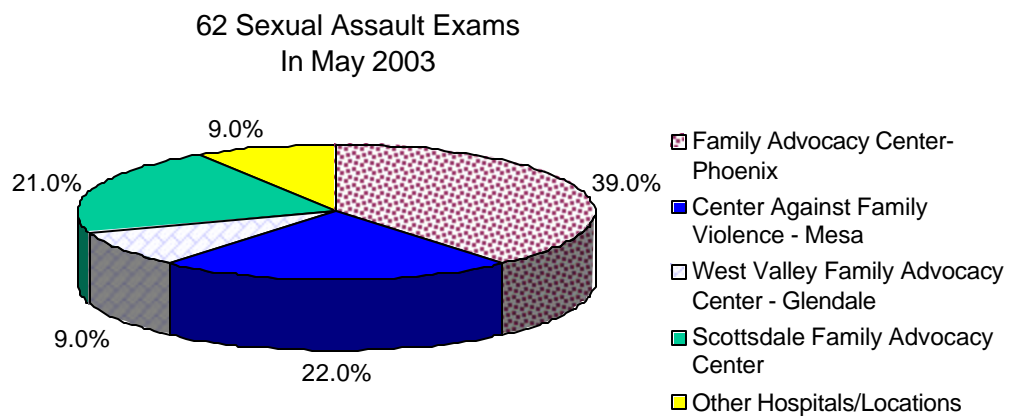
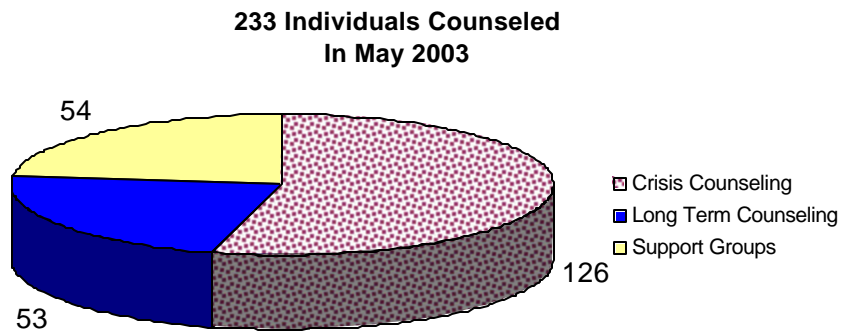
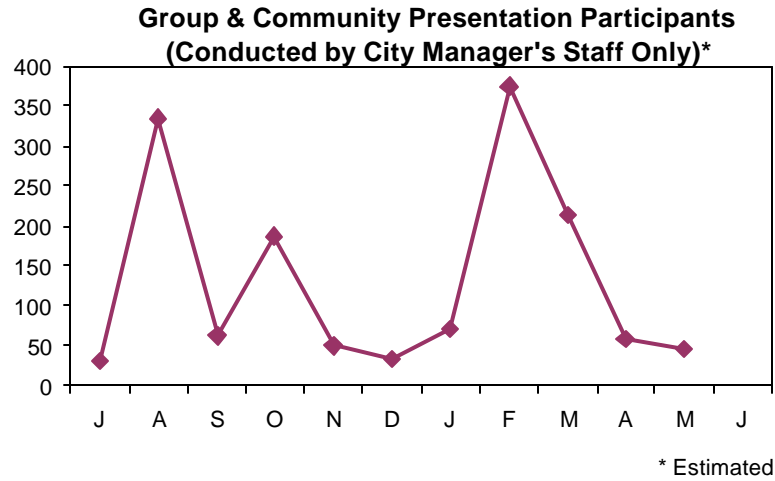
**Number of Victim Contacts**



**Type of Service Provided**



## Family Advocacy Center <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> continued



**Family Advocacy Center <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> continued****Comments/Highlights**

The total number of victim contacts for the month of May was 549, compared to 571 contacts for the month of April. Of the contacts made, 370 were domestic violence, 62 were sexual assaults, and there were 117 walk-in clients identified as either DV and/or sexual assault cases. Of the 549 contacts, 317 victims (approximately 58 percent) requested and received specific services such as shelter placement, orders of protection, financial assistance, counseling, etc.

The Forensic Nurse Examiners Program conducted 74 medical examinations throughout Maricopa County in May, a three percent increase from April. Of those exams, 29 cases or 39 percent were conducted at the Family Advocacy Center.

Staff from the Family Advocacy Center, Municipal Court, Police Department's Victims Services Unit, City Prosecutor's Office and the City Auditor's Office attended the Pinal County Domestic Violence Court Implementation Conference in Casa Grande on April 30 - May 1, 2003. Speakers at the conference included Sarah Buel of the University of Texas School of Law, Mary Thompson, Director of the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families, Division for Women, and the Honorable William J. O'Neil, Presiding Judge, Pinal County Superior Court.

Family Advocacy Center staff participated in the Human Services Department's Caseworker Academy on May 8, 2003 at the Travis L. Williams Family Service Center. The academy offers different classes each month on various issues to assist caseworkers with their daily jobs. The FAC class, offered every six months, reviewed the cycle of domestic violence, services provided at the Center, and community resources for victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse. This is the second time that staff from the FAC has participated in the academy.

The Family Advocacy Center received a donation of 100 sexual assault bags on May 13, 2003 from the Assistance League of Phoenix. The Assistance League of Phoenix has provided bags containing undergarments, clothing, toiletries, and shoes for sexual assault victims since the Center opened in August of 1999. The bags are critical to the program and are given to sexual assault victims once the forensic medical examination is completed.

Family Advocacy Center staff hosted 30 City employees at a brown bag luncheon on May 14, 2003 as part of the Personnel Department's Passport to the City Program. The Passport program is an extension of the City's Supervisor Academy and offers academy graduates an opportunity to visit various departments and functions throughout the City. The group of supervisors received a tour of the Family Advocacy Center, information about the services provided, and an overview of the collaborative efforts that make the Center a nationally recognized facility.

FAC Director Ginger Bealer, Lt. Lonetta Sanders and Lt. Doug Sparks attended the annual meeting of the Arizona Child and Family Advocacy Network (ACFAN) in Sedona on May 12-13, 2003. ACFAN is the umbrella organization for the 12 child and family advocacy centers located throughout the state of Arizona. Center directors gathered at the annual meeting to develop a strategic plan for the organization.

FAC staff attended a three-day conference sponsored by the National Association of Forensic Social Work entitled "Forensic Social Work and the Law" on May 19-21, 2003. The conference included workshops on court testimony, trial preparation, domestic violence and law enforcement, child abuse and expert witness testimony.

**Community Outreach:**

FAC staff participated in the Creighton School Health Fair held on May 1, 2003 for parents and families of Creighton students. Information was provided to 10 parents about the services available at the Center and the cycle of domestic violence.

FAC staff person Gloria Full participated in a series of interviews with Spanish television station KGF/Channel 53 in May for the new "Entre Amigos" (Among Friends) program, which airs each weekday from 8am to 9am and 8pm to 9pm. The interviews focused on how to recognize the potential of a violent relationship and the effects of domestic violence on children.